Attorney Docket No. P15187

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for routing a signaling message in a ~~SS7/C7~~ telecommunication network, ~~including a first and second licensed operator networks, the first licensed operator network including a Border Node, the second licensed operator network including an adjacent Border Node to the Border Node in the first licensed operator network, wherein the first and second licensed operator networks are using a same Point Code configuration numbering plan for defining their nodes and wherein the Border Node in the first telecommunication network and the adjacent Border Node in the second licensed operator network are interconnected by at least a Link Set, also the SS7/C7 telecommunication network is characterized in that the Border Node in the first licensed operator network is supporting Message Transfer Part Point Code Mapping for both licensed operator networks. Said method comprising steps of:~~ wherein the telecommunication network includes a first licensed operator network and second licensed operator network, the first licensed operator network including a first Border Node adjacent to a second Border Node of the second licensed operator network, the method comprising:

providing a first numbering plan for use by the first licensed operator network, wherein the first numbering plan specifies the Point Codes used in the first licensed operator network;

providing a second numbering plan for use by the second licensed operator network wherein the second numbering plan specifies the Point Codes used in the second licensed operator network and wherein the first and second numbering plans use a same Point Code configuration numbering plan;

receiving at the first Border Node the signaling message comprising an Originating Point Code (OPC) and a Destination Point Code (DPC) in accordance with

the first numbering plan ~~in the Message Transfer Part (MTP) of the Border Node in the first licensed operator network a signaling message, the signaling message including an Originating Point Code (OPC) and a Destination Point Code (DPC), wherein the OPC and DPC values are according with the numbering plan of the licensed operator network that originates the signaling message~~;

mapping the OPC and the DPC of the signaling message from the first to the second numbering plan ~~based the direction of the signaling message in the MTP of the Border Node in the first licensed operator network, the OPC and DPC from the first numbering plan to an second network numbering plan~~; and

delivering the signaling message from the first Border Node to a destination node of the telecommunication network according to the mapped OPC and DPC ~~in the first licensed operator network to a destination node according to the mapped DPC of the second numbering plan~~.

2. - 11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) A database for MTP Point Code Mapping, comprising:
an identity field for an associated Link Set;
an identity field associated with Point Codes in an own numbering plan; and
an identity field associated with Point Codes in an external numbering plan.

13. (Original) The database of claim 12, wherein the identity field for an associated Link Set contains the Link Set Identifier of a Link Set that connects two Border Nodes in different licensed operator network, which is associated to an MTP Point Code Mapping Table.

14. (Original) The database of claim 12, wherein the identity field associated with Point Codes in an own numbering contains the actual Point Code values according to the own numbering plan.

15. (Original) The database of claim 12, wherein the identity field associated with Point Codes in an external numbering contains the alias Point Code values according to the external numbering plan.

16. - 20. (Canceled)

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein method is performed using Signaling System 7 (SS7/C7) protocol.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the signaling message is performed in a Message Transfer Part (MTP) of the first Border Node.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the Border Node is a Signaling Transfer Point or a Signaling End Point.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the signaling message is an outgoing signaling message or an incoming signaling message.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination node is in the second licensed operator network, the step of mapping the OPC and the DPC of the signaling message further including:

checking in a Message Transfer Part (MTP) of the first Border Node if a Link Set associated toward the destination node supports MTP Point Code Mapping, if so

extracting the OPC and the DPC from the signaling message;

selecting an MTP Point Code Mapping Table associated to the Link Set;

performing a mapping in the MTP of the first Border Node of the OPC to an alias OPC;

performing a mapping in the MTP of the first Border Node, of the DPC to an actual DPC of the destination node; and

replacing the OPC by the alias OPC and the DPC to the actual DPC, wherein the alias OPC and the actual DPC are known in the second licensed operator network.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the Link Set has associated therewith a Mapping Point Code Table.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the destination node is in the first licensed operator network, the step of mapping the OPC and the DPC of the signaling message further including:

checking in a Message Transfer Part (MTP) of the first Border Node if a Link Set associated toward the destination node supports MTP Point Code Mapping, if so

extracting the OPC and DPC from the signaling message;

selecting an MTP Point Code Mapping Table associated to the Link Set;

performing a mapping in the MTP of the first Border Node of the OPC to an alias OPC;

performing a mapping in the MTP of the first Border Node, of the DPC to an actual DPC of the destination node ; and

replacing the OPC by the alias OPC and the DPC by the actual DPC, wherein the alias OPC and the actual DPC are known in the first licensed operator network.\

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the Link Set has associated therewith a Mapping Point Code Table.